

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
SAA-01 SES-02 /067 W
-----072047 031104Z /13

P 030815Z AUG 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5633
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, IZ
SUBJECT: FAHD VISIT

1. AUGUST 2 VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD, AND WARMTH OF THIS
RECEPTION, APPARENTLY TOOK EVEN SOME
ARAB DIPLOMATS BY SURPRISE. NO WORK HAD BEEN ISSUED
IN ADVANCE, AND OBSERVERS ARE INTRIGUED BY THE POSSIBLE
MEANING OF THE SESSIONS WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN AND PRESIDENT
BAKR.

2. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, FAHD'S DEPARTURE WAS ORIGINALLY
PLANNED FOR THE SAME DAY, BUT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SHIFTED
TO AUGUST 3. IF THIS INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THEN THERE
IS PERHAPS JUSTIFICATION FOR THE BELIEF THAT
PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN ROUNDING OFF SOME OF THE
ROUGHED EDGES IN INTER-ARAB RELATIONS.

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3. COMMENT: THE IRAQI-PLO TROUBLES, NOW COMING TO GRUITION,
WILL PROBABLY NOT HELP FAHD IN HIS EFFORTS.
HARD-LINE, INTRASIGENT REJECTIONISTS
TRADITIONALLY GET TOUGHER WHEN CROWDED, AND THE PLO
APPEARS TO BE CROWDING THE IRAQIS PRETTY HARD.
EGYPT'S TOUGHER STANCE, AND THE GROWING PROBLEMS
IN LEBANON, INCLUDING SYRIA'S, ARE OTHER FACTORS THAT

MAY HAVE ALTERED THE EQUATION IN RECENT DAYS,
BUT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR HOW THE IRAQIS SEE THE CHANGES.
IT IS DOUBTFUL THT THE GOI WILL SHOW MUCH ACCOMMODATION,
BUT THEY ARE EVIDENTLY WILLING TO LISTEN TO A LITTLE
TALK ON THE SUBJECT. ARAB UNITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN THEIR
GOAL, BUT ON IRAQ'S TERMS.
PECK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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